

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 173

By Hood

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Dr. Harry Beamon upon his induction into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those citizens who, through unwavering dedication and unflagging commitment to excellence, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Dr. Harry Beamon, who has devoted more than 40 years to the education and instruction of young students and athletes; on March 19, 2005, Dr. Beamon will be inducted into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame, a most befitting recognition of his outstanding service to Tennessee's schools and athletic programs; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Beamon began his career officiating basketball and football in 1960 as a member of the Black High School Officials Association, with whom he was affiliated until 1967; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Beamon is a highly distinguished member of the first group of African Americans accepted into the TSSAA; he began with an Affiliate Membership of three years, from 1964 through 1967; and

WHEREAS, since his initiation in 1964, Dr. Beamon brought a great deal of fairness and integrity to the TSSAA during his twenty-four years as a basketball official, during which time he served meritoriously in the 1971 Boys State Tournament, the 1983 Girls State Tournament, many District and Regional Tournaments (1970-1991), and numerous Sub State Tournaments (1970-1991); and

WHEREAS, Dr. Beamon's acceptance into the Southeastern Conference in 1971 as the first Black official reflects not only his integrity and highly respected character but also his position as a role model to the people of our great State, and indeed our nation; and

WHEREAS, an active official for thirty-one years, the significance of Dr. Beamon's impact cannot be adequately measured by time alone; his positive impact on the lives of students, athletes, fellow teachers, and administrators still resounds in the community today; and

WHEREAS, he has trained numerous young people in officiating at both Fisk University and Tennessee State University, with many later becoming top officials in the TSSAA; and

WHEREAS, employed with Tennessee State University since 1980, Dr. Beamon is currently a Professor of Human Performance and Sports Science; he served as Chair of the Department from 1985-1988; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his duties as a professor and basketball official, Dr. Harry Beamon also found time to serve as the Commissioner of the Middle Tennessee College Officials Association from 1980 to 2001; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Beamon's dedication and commitment to high school athletics did not diminish with his retirement from officiating in 1991; since retiring from the court, Dr. Harry Beamon has continued to remain active in the TSSAA, Ohio Valley Conference, and other officiating camps; and

WHEREAS, a pillar of the Nashville community, Dr. Beamon is a lifetime member of the Cameron High Alumni Association and of both the local and national Tennessee State University Alumni Associations; and

WHEREAS, he also authored *Statistics Workbook in Tests and Measurements*, along with numerous articles related to officiating, cognitive test making, and teaching strategies; and

WHEREAS, throughout his illustrious career, Dr. Harry Beamon has been supported by his loving wife, Sophia, and his two children, Kevin and Kayra; and

WHEREAS, for the above accomplishments, his impeccable moral standards, and impressive work ethic, Dr. Harry Beamon has been selected for induction into the TSSAA Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Beamon, as a man of true character and commitment, is a selfless community servant and civic leader whom fellow Tennesseans admire for his tireless efforts in molding the State's youth and guiding them with solid principles and high standards, whether on the athletic fields or in the classroom and should be properly recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join the family, friends, and colleagues of Dr. Harry Beamon in congratulating him upon his induction into in the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame, honor and commend him for his substantial legacy as a teacher, coach, and administrator in the education community of Tennessee, and offer our heartfelt thanks for the dedication which he has shown this State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.